

Amendments to the Specification

Please amend the first full paragraph included on page 1 of the application as follows:

This invention relates to a method and device for thermally treating flour and similar free-flowing food and feed products ~~according to the definition of the species of claim 1~~ as well as a device for carrying out this method. In particular, this invention relates to the thermal treatment of feed meal and flour.

Please amend the third full paragraph on page 2 as follows:

The object of this invention is to develop a method of thermal treatment of flour and meal for hygienic purposes, especially for thermal treatment of feed meal which will avoid the disadvantages of the state of the art and will also permit efficient treatment of even small batches. ~~This object is achieved with the characterizing features of claim 1.~~

Please amend the fourth full paragraph on page 2 as follows:

Another object of this invention is create a device for thermal treatment of flour, especially feed meal ~~according to claim 4~~, for hygienic purposes.

Please amend the fifth full paragraph on page 2 as follows:

Advantageous embodiments are also ~~disclosed in the respective subordinate claims.~~

Please amend the fifth full paragraph on page 3 as follows:

The mixer 4 is a batch mixer, preferably designed according to Swiss Patent 1333/94 or European Patent A 685,255 and having a ~~mixer shaft 1~~ mixer shaft 5 with mixing paddles as well as a device for steam feed 6.